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FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

DATE: March 4, 2005

To: **Commissioner**
United States Patent and Trademark OfficeFROM: Kelly J. McCrystle
Patents and Trademarks
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PHONE NUMBER OF TELECOPY MACHINE: (703) 872-9306

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER SHEET): 6**MESSAGE:**

U.S. Application No.: 10/729,541

Filed: December 5, 2003

Title: Articulating Suturing Device and Method

Abbott Ref: 6771.US.C1

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above is the following:

1. Transmittal Letter (1 page)
2. PTO Form SB/O8A (2 pages, in duplicate)
3. Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages, in duplicate)

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PATENTS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Andreas, Bernard et al

Serial No.: 10/729,541

Filed: December 5, 2003

For: Articulating Suturing Device and Method

Attorney Docket No.: 6771.US.C1

Art Unit: Unassigned

**Certificate of Facsimile Transmission
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Date of Fax Transmission: March 4, 2005


Kelly J. McCrystle

3/4/05
Date

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith for the patent application identified above are the following:

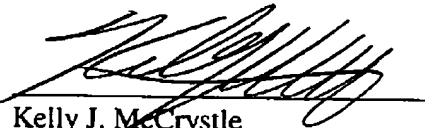
1. Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages, in duplicate)
2. Form PTO-1449 (2 pages, in duplicate)

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional Filing Fees required under 37 CFR §1.16, as well as any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR §1.17 associated with this communication for which full payment had not been tendered, to Deposit Account No. 01-0025.

23492

ABBOTT LABORATORIES
Telephone: (650) 474-3326
Facsimile: (847) 938-2623

Respectfully submitted,
Andreas, et al.


Kelly J. McCrystle
Registration No. 46,257
Attorney for Applicants

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3/4/05
Date

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:


Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits. Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form. Copies of the listed documents are attached if necessary as specified under 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge or credit any over payments to Deposit Account No. 01-0025. The Commissioner also is authorized to charge our Deposit Account any additional fees (or credit any over payments) that may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 in association with this communication for which full payment has not been tendered. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,
Andreas, et al.


Kelly J. McCrystle
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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/729,541
Filing Date	December 5, 2003
First Named Inventor	Andreas, Bernard
Art Unit	unassigned
Examiner Name	unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	6771.US.C1

Sheet	1	of	1
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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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